



STATE OF MICHIGAN

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GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY, MANAGEMENT & BUDGET
LANSING

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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November Jobless Rates Display Little Change in Most of Michigan's Regional Labor Markets

Lansing – Seasonally unadjusted regional unemployment rates were relatively stable in November, as rates edged down in nine of the state's 17 major labor market areas, according to the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget. Total employment and labor force levels increased over the month in most regions.

"Michigan's local labor markets in November recorded very typical patterns for this time of the year," said Jason Palmer, director of the Bureau of Labor Market Information & Strategic Initiatives. "Jobless rates were fairly stable in most of the state's southern areas, while rates showed notable seasonal increases in the northern regions."

From October to November, unemployment rates fell modestly in nine areas, rose in five, and were unchanged in the Bay City, Kalamazoo-Portage, and Saginaw Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs). November jobless rate reductions ranged from -0.1 to -1.0 percentage points with a median decline of only -0.2 of a percentage point. The largest over-the-month rate decreases were posted in the Monroe and Ann Arbor MSAs, down by -1.0 and -0.5 percentage points respectively. Of the five regions that recorded rate hikes, the largest by far were seasonal and registered in the state's three northernmost regions. The unemployment rate in the Northeast Lower Michigan region rose by 1.2 percentage points, and the rates in both the Upper Peninsula and the Northwest Lower Michigan region increased by a half percentage point. In November, 11 of the 17 Michigan regions displayed unemployment rates at or below the national seasonally unadjusted rate of 4.4 percent.

Unemployment Rates Rise Modestly Over Year

Since November 2015, jobless rates rose slightly in 16 of the state's major regions. Rate hikes ranged from 0.3 to 0.8 of a percentage point with a median advance of 0.4 of a percentage point. The largest over-the-year rate increases were recorded in the Northeast Lower Michigan (+0.8), and the Niles-Benton Harbor (+0.6), and Midland (+0.6) MSAs. The unemployment rate in the Detroit-Warren-Dearborn MSA was unchanged over the year.

Total Employment Up Over Month, Year

During November, total employment advanced in 12 regions and declined in five. Area increases ranged from 0.4 to 1.5 percent, with a median gain of 0.9 percent. The Ann Arbor, Jackson, and Flint MSAs led the over-the-month additions. Of the regions with November employment reductions, the only notable drops were seasonal, and were posted in the Northeast Lower Michigan region (-1.7%), the Upper Peninsula (-1.3%), and the Northwest Lower Michigan region (-1.2%).

Since November 2015, total employment advanced in 11 regions with a median gain of 1.3 percent. The Ann Arbor, Detroit-Warren-Dearborn, and Kalamazoo-Portage MSAs displayed the leading percentage gains over this period. Total employment declined over the year in the Bay City (-0.8%) MSA, the Upper Peninsula (-0.7%), and the Midland (-0.2%) and Saginaw (-0.1%) MSAs. Employment was essentially unchanged since November 2015 in both the Jackson and Niles-Benton Harbor MSAs.

Labor Force Levels Up Over Month, Year

During November, workforce levels increased in 11 regions and declined in five. The labor force in the Niles-Benton Harbor MSA was essentially unchanged over the month. Workforce advances ranged from 0.4 to 1.0 percent with a median increase of 0.8 percent. Reductions were limited to -0.8 percent or less, with the largest declines recorded in the state's three northernmost labor market areas.

Between November 2015 and November 2016, labor force levels rose in 15 regions with a median gain of 1.0 percent. Since November 2015, the Bay City MSA and the Upper Peninsula showed minor workforce reductions.

Seasonal Reduction in Leisure and Hospitality Services Lowers November Jobs

The monthly survey of employers indicated that seasonally unadjusted payroll jobs in Michigan declined by 7,000 in November to 4,400,000. Seasonal job cuts were recorded in leisure and hospitality services (-15,000) and construction (-5,000). Somewhat offsetting these reductions was a seasonal job gain in trade, transportation and utilities (+9,000). The state's remaining industry sectors were little changed over the month.

Within trade, transportation and utilities, retail trade jobs rose by 6,000 over the month as merchants continued hiring for the holiday shopping season.

From October to November, metro area payroll jobs were mixed and little changed. Seven of the 14 major metro regions in the state recorded mostly minor job reductions with a median decline of -0.5 percent. Six metropolitan areas posted minor job additions of 0.6 percent or less, and payroll jobs were essentially unchanged over the month in the Saginaw MSA.

From November 2015 to November 2016, seasonally unadjusted payroll jobs rose statewide by 83,000 or 1.9 percent. Nearly all major industry sectors in the state recorded job gains since November 2015 with the exception of a minor job cut in trade, transportation and utilities.

Since November 2015, payroll jobs increased in 11 of the 14 metro areas, with a 1.8 percent median advance. The largest over-the-year job gains on a percentage basis were displayed in the Ann Arbor, Kalamazoo-Portage, and Grand Rapids-Wyoming MSAs. Payroll jobs fell slightly over the year in the Bay City and Jackson MSAs, while jobs were essentially unchanged over this period in the Midland metro area.

County Jobless Rates Up Over Month, Year

Forty-six of Michigan's 83 counties reported mostly minor jobless rate hikes in November, with the most pronounced rate increases shown in the state's northern areas. Unemployment rates declined over the month in 29 counties, while the rates in eight counties were unchanged.

Since November 2015, jobless rates rose slightly in 73 counties, with a minor median hike of 0.4 of a percentage point. Unemployment rates declined in six counties over the year, and the rates were unchanged in four.

*Note: Data in this release is **not seasonally adjusted**. As a result, employment and unemployment trends may differ from previously released Michigan seasonally adjusted data. A breakdown of seasonally unadjusted November workforce estimates for Michigan and its 17 major labor market areas follows, along with a listing of county jobless rates for November.*

Note to Editors: Please ensure that the source for state unemployment rates reads "Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget."

	<u>Nov-15</u>	<u>Oct-16</u>	<u>Nov-16</u>	% change month	% change year
ANN ARBOR MSA (Washtenaw County)					
Civilian Labor Force	193,400	200,200	202,200	1.0%	4.6%
Total Employment	188,300	193,200	196,100	1.5%	4.1%
Unemployment	5,100	6,900	6,100	-11.6%	19.6%
Rate (percent)	2.7	3.5	3.0		

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	<u>Nov-15</u>	<u>Oct-16</u>	<u>Nov-16</u>	% change month	% change year
BATTLE CREEK MSA (Calhoun County)					
Civilian Labor Force	64,600	64,800	65,200	0.6%	0.9%
Total Employment	62,200	62,100	62,500	0.6%	0.5%
Unemployment	2,400	2,700	2,700	0.0%	12.5%
Rate (percent)	3.7	4.2	4.1		

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	<u>Nov-15</u>	<u>Oct-16</u>	<u>Nov-16</u>	% change month	% change year
BAY CITY MSA (Bay County)					
Civilian Labor Force	52,700	52,100	52,500	0.8%	-0.4%
Total Employment	50,600	49,800	50,200	0.8%	-0.8%
Unemployment	2,100	2,300	2,300	0.0%	9.5%
Rate (percent)	4.0	4.4	4.4		

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	<u>Nov-15</u>	<u>Oct-16</u>	<u>Nov-16</u>	% change month	% change year
DETROIT-WARREN-DEARBORN MSA (Data in thousands) (Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Lapeer, Livingston, St. Clair counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	1,992	2,079	2,071	-0.4%	4.0%
Total Employment	1,890	1,967	1,966	-0.1%	4.0%
Unemployment	101	112	105	-6.3%	4.0%
Rate (percent)	5.1	5.4	5.1		

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	<u>Nov-15</u>	<u>Oct-16</u>	<u>Nov-16</u>	% change month	% change year
FLINT MSA (Genesee County)					
Civilian Labor Force	182,900	182,900	184,700	1.0%	1.0%
Total Employment	174,800	174,000	175,900	1.1%	0.6%
Unemployment	8,100	8,900	8,700	-2.2%	7.4%
Rate (percent)	4.4	4.9	4.7		

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	<u>Nov-15</u>	<u>Oct-16</u>	<u>Nov-16</u>	% change month	% change year
GRAND RAPIDS - WYOMING MSA (Barry, Kent, Montcalm, Ottawa counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	559,900	566,500	571,000	0.8%	2.0%
Total Employment	544,400	548,300	553,200	0.9%	1.6%
Unemployment	15,500	18,200	17,900	-1.6%	15.5%
Rate (percent)	2.8	3.2	3.1		

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	<u>Nov-15</u>	<u>Oct-16</u>	<u>Nov-16</u>	% change month	% change year
JACKSON MSA (Jackson County)					
Civilian Labor Force	72,400	72,000	72,700	1.0%	0.4%
Total Employment	69,600	68,800	69,600	1.2%	0.0%
Unemployment	2,800	3,200	3,100	-3.1%	10.7%
Rate (percent)	3.8	4.4	4.3		

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	<u>Nov-15</u>	<u>Oct-16</u>	<u>Nov-16</u>	% change month	% change year
KALAMAZOO - PORTAGE MSA (Kalamazoo and Van Buren counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	166,800	169,700	170,400	0.4%	2.2%
Total Employment	161,100	163,100	163,900	0.5%	1.7%
Unemployment	5,700	6,500	6,500	0.0%	14.0%
Rate (percent)	3.4	3.8	3.8		

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	<u>Nov-15</u>	<u>Oct-16</u>	<u>Nov-16</u>	% change month	% change year
LANSING - EAST LANSING MSA (Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	246,000	248,100	250,000	0.8%	1.6%
Total Employment	238,400	239,100	241,400	1.0%	1.3%
Unemployment	7,600	8,900	8,600	-3.4%	13.2%
Rate (percent)	3.1	3.6	3.4		

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	<u>Nov-15</u>	<u>Oct-16</u>	<u>Nov-16</u>	% change month	% change year
MIDLAND MSA (Midland County)					
Civilian Labor Force	41,700	41,400	41,800	1.0%	0.2%
Total Employment	40,200	39,700	40,100	1.0%	-0.2%
Unemployment	1,500	1,700	1,700	0.0%	13.3%
Rate (percent)	3.5	4.0	4.1		

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	<u>Nov-15</u>	<u>Oct-16</u>	<u>Nov-16</u>	% change month	% change year
MONROE MSA (Monroe County)					
Civilian Labor Force	77,500	78,900	78,600	-0.4%	1.4%
Total Employment	75,000	75,300	75,800	0.7%	1.1%
Unemployment	2,500	3,600	2,800	-22.2%	12.0%
Rate (percent)	3.2	4.6	3.6		

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	<u>Nov-15</u>	<u>Oct-16</u>	<u>Nov-16</u>	% change month	% change year
MUSKEGON MSA (Muskegon County)					
Civilian Labor Force	77,200	78,300	78,600	0.4%	1.8%
Total Employment	73,800	74,700	75,000	0.4%	1.6%
Unemployment	3,300	3,700	3,600	-2.7%	9.1%
Rate (percent)	4.3	4.7	4.6		

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	<u>Nov-15</u>	<u>Oct-16</u>	<u>Nov-16</u>	% change month	% change year
NILES - BENTON HARBOR MSA (Berrien County)					
Civilian Labor Force	74,000	74,500	74,500	0.0%	0.7%
Total Employment	71,200	71,300	71,200	-0.1%	0.0%
Unemployment	2,800	3,200	3,300	3.1%	17.9%
Rate (percent)	3.8	4.3	4.4		

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	<u>Nov-15</u>	<u>Oct-16</u>	<u>Nov-16</u>	% change month	% change year
SAGINAW MSA (Saginaw County)					
Civilian Labor Force	90,200	89,800	90,500	0.8%	0.3%
Total Employment	86,600	85,800	86,500	0.8%	-0.1%
Unemployment	3,700	4,000	4,000	0.0%	8.1%
Rate (percent)	4.1	4.4	4.4		

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	<u>Nov-15</u>	<u>Oct-16</u>	<u>Nov-16</u>	% change month	% change year
UPPER PENINSULA LMA (15 counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	140,100	141,100	140,000	-0.8%	-0.1%
Total Employment	133,000	133,900	132,100	-1.3%	-0.7%
Unemployment	7,100	7,100	7,800	9.9%	9.9%
Rate (percent)	5.1	5.1	5.6		

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	<u>Nov-15</u>	<u>Oct-16</u>	<u>Nov-16</u>	% change month	% change year
NORTHEAST LOWER MICHIGAN (Alcona, Alpena, Cheboygan, Crawford, Iosco, Montmorency, Ogemaw, Oscoda, Otsego, Presque Isle, Roscommon counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	80,800	82,000	81,600	-0.5%	1.0%
Total Employment	75,900	77,400	76,100	-1.7%	0.3%
Unemployment	4,900	4,600	5,600	21.7%	14.3%
Rate (percent)	6.0	5.6	6.8		

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NORTHWEST LOWER MICHIGAN (Antrim, Charlevoix, Emmet, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Manistee, Missaukee, Wexford counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	145,000	147,300	146,300	-0.7%	0.9%
Total Employment	138,700	141,000	139,300	-1.2%	0.4%
Unemployment	6,300	6,200	6,900	11.3%	9.5%
Rate (percent)	4.3	4.2	4.7		

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	<u>Nov-15</u>	<u>Oct-16</u>	<u>Nov-16</u>	% change month	% change year
MICHIGAN (Data in thousands)					
Civilian Labor Force	4,747	4,860	4,864	0.1%	2.5%
Total Employment	4,546	4,635	4,646	0.2%	2.2%
Unemployment	201	225	218	-3.1%	8.5%
Rate (percent)	4.2	4.6	4.5		

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(more)

**MICHIGAN COUNTIES RANKED BY UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
NOVEMBER 2016**

1	Ottawa County	3.0	43	Houghton County	4.9
2	Washtenaw County	3.0	44	Wexford County	4.9
3	Clinton County	3.1	45	Macomb County	5.0
4	Kent County	3.1	46	Alpena County	5.0
5	Eaton County	3.2	47	Mason County	5.0
6	Barry County	3.3	48	Tuscola County	5.1
7	Allegan County	3.3	49	Marquette County	5.1
8	Ionia County	3.5	50	Benzie County	5.3
9	Grand Traverse County	3.6	51	Gogebic County	5.4
10	Ingham County	3.6	52	Iron County	5.5
11	Kalamazoo County	3.6	53	St. Clair County	5.5
12	Monroe County	3.6	54	Delta County	5.5
13	Lenawee County	3.7	55	Manistee County	5.6
14	Livingston County	3.9	56	Otsego County	5.6
15	Isabella County	3.9	57	Gladwin County	5.7
16	St. Joseph County	3.9	58	Lapeer County	5.7
17	Huron County	4.0	59	Kalkaska County	5.8
18	Newaygo County	4.0	60	Emmet County	6.0
19	Leelanau County	4.1	61	Iosco County	6.0
20	Oakland County	4.1	62	Oceana County	6.0
21	Calhoun County	4.1	63	Wayne County	6.1
22	Midland County	4.1	64	Clare County	6.2
23	Dickinson County	4.2	65	Chippewa County	6.2
24	Montcalm County	4.3	66	Antrim County	6.3
25	Cass County	4.3	67	Lake County	6.3
26	Branch County	4.3	68	Luce County	6.3
27	Shiawassee County	4.3	69	Ogemaw County	6.5
28	Jackson County	4.3	70	Oscoda County	6.5
29	Mecosta County	4.4	71	Alcona County	6.9
30	Bay County	4.4	72	Baraga County	6.9
31	Berrien County	4.4	73	Crawford County	6.9
32	Saginaw County	4.4	74	Arenac County	7.1
33	Missaukee County	4.5	75	Roscommon County	7.2
34	Menominee County	4.5	76	Schoolcraft County	7.6
35	Hillsdale County	4.6	77	Keweenaw County	8.0
36	Muskegon County	4.6	78	Ontonagon County	8.0
37	Van Buren County	4.7	79	Presque Isle County	8.0
38	Gratiot County	4.7	80	Alger County	8.4
39	Genesee County	4.7	81	Cheboygan County	9.7
40	Charlevoix County	4.8	82	Montmorency County	9.7
41	Osceola County	4.8	83	Mackinac County	11.1
42	Sanilac County	4.8			

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